

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-08 AID-05
COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 CEA-01 /083 W
-----242023Z 102391 /66

O R 241935Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1416
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2370

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EIND, ECOSOC, PFOR, XF
SUBJECT: PLO ISSUE AT ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA
CONFERENCE AT AMMAN

REF: (A) AMMAN 2366, (B) STATE 092282, (C) STATE 089903

1. FIRST MEETING OF ECWA PLENARY MORNING APRIL 24 PROCEEDED WITH INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND WELCOMING SPEECHES. AT SECOND MEETING SAME EVENING, AGENDA ITEMS 2-4 WERE HANDLED ROUTINELY, EXCEPT FOR DISCUSSION OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS OF NON-ECWA MEMBERS (TO BE REPORTED SEPTTEL).

2. AT THIS POINT, STATUS OF PLO APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR. IN BRIEF INTERVAL BETWEEN CLOSED SESSION (TO WHICH ONLY MEMBER STATES INVITED) AND SECOND MEETING OF PLENARY, EXEC SEC OF ECWA ATTAR ADVISED US DEL THAT ISSUE OF PLO APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP IN ECWA WOULD BE INSCRIBED ON AGENDA IN EVENING'S PLENARY MEETING, BUT THAT DECISION ON ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND FAVORABLY PLO APPLICATION TO ECWA FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL LATER,
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PERHAPS CLOSED, SESSION.

3. IN PLENARY, FOLLOWING INCLUSION OF PLO ITEM ON AGENDA, PLO REP DELIVERED BRIEF SPEECH IN WHICH HE REQUESTED SPONSORSHIP FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION. ATTAR THEN REMINDED PLENARY THAT IT IS NOT WITHIN COMPETENCE OF ECWA TO DECIDE ON PLO MEMBERSHIP, THAT MEMBERS OF ECWA ARE MEMBER STATES OF UN, AND

THAT ECOSOC MUST DECIDE ISSUE ON RECOMMENDATION OF ECWA.
HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT PLENARY "MIGHT WISH TO RECOMMEND
FAVORABLE ACTION" ON PLO APPLICATION.

4. IRAQI REP SPOKE TO SUPPORT ITEM. ATTAR REQUESTED THAT
DRAFT RESOLUTION BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO RAPPORTEUR BY
IRAQI DEL. EACH MEMBER STATE THEN SEPARATELY SUPPORTED PLO
APPLICATION. FOLLOWING THESE EXPRESSEIONS OF SUPPORT, JORDANIAN
DEL INTERVENED TO REQUEST THAT A DETAILED WRITTEN RESOLUTION BE
SUBMITTED. ATTAR THANKED DEL FOR NOTING THIS REQUIREMENT,
SHORTLY AFTER WHICH MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

5. IMMEDIATELY AFTER ADJOURNMENT, US DEL SPOKE WITH ATTAR
(WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY INFORMED WE WOULD REQUEST TO MAKE STATEMENT
IF PLO ITEM WAS PUT ON AGENDA) AND SEPARATELY WITH IRAQI
RAPPORTEUR ADNAN AROUF (WHO IS ALSO SECRETARY OF ECWA) AND
RECEIVED CONTRADICTORY ACCOUNTS OF WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED. ATTAR
EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT COURSE OF EVENTS AND ATTRIBUTED THEM TO
ARAB DELEGATIONS' MISUNDERSTANDING OF RULES OF PROCEDURE. HE
TOLD US DEL THAT FAVORABLE RESOLUTION WAS EFFECTIVELY ADOPTED,
BUT THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE READ TO PLENARY. HE ALSO SAID THAT
US DEL WOULD BE ABLE TO SUBMIT OBSERVATIONS AT THAT TIME. IN
SEPARATE CONVERSATION RAOUF CLAIMED THAT ISSUE WOULD NOT AGAIN
BE RAISED IN EITHER PLENARY OR CLOSED SESSION BUT ATTAR LATER
TOLD U.S. DEL THAT ISSUE WOULD BE RAISED AGAIN AND THAT RESOLUTION
WOULD HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION
UNDER PROPER U.S. PROCEDURES.

6. IT APPEARS THAT SOME ARAB PLO- MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTERS ARE
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MAKING ATTEMPT TO PUSH PLO RESOLUTION THROUGH ECWA BUT THAT
SEC-GEN ATTAR IS RESISTING THIS APPROACH AS COUNTER TO UN
PROCEDURES. U.S. DEL HAS REQUESTED ATTAR TO ALLOW US TO MAKE
STATEMENT AND HE HAS AGREED AND ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE FOR US TO
DO SO. WE EXPECT TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY AT SESSION TOMORROW
APRIL 25 AND WILL DRAW VERBATIM ON TALKING POINTS IN PARA 2
REF C OPPOSING RESOLUTION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR PLO.

7. REGARDING U.K.-EC-9 POSITION, U.K. CHIEF DELEGATE ADRIAN
SMITH INFORMED US THAT U.K. PREFERS TO OPPOSE PLO MEMBERSHIP
ISSUE IN ECOSOC WHERE IT CAN BE BETTER HANDLED BUT THAT THEY
ARE AWAITING PRECISE LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION BEFORE DECIDING
WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE STATEMENT AT ECWA PLENARY.
SUDDARTH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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